

# The Old Paths

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## "It Is Gospel Meeting Time!"

Jarrold Jacobs

**T**his week, our gospel meeting begins with brother Lanny Smith. Throughout our meeting, we will have congregational singing, prayers, and Bible preaching. Let us remember our responsibilities toward this meeting, and support it by our attendance, prayers, and in every way we can. What a great opportunity we have before us! Let us be excited and ready to hear God's will preached by brother Smith. Let us also be busy in inviting others to come to the meeting. Sometimes, folks think that once the gospel meeting starts, that we can slack off on invitations to the meeting. Not true! This is the week that we should speak even more because it is happening right now!! This meeting continues through Friday night (starting at 7:00 pm on weeknights). Lord willing, our friends and loved ones will have several opportunities to hear God's word preached in its purity and simplicity.

This is a very important study. ALL will benefit by coming each night. If you have something planned this week, cancel it!! Nothing should come between us and God. This meeting will only be a success if you are here!

Remember to invite your friends and neighbors to come here and hear the gospel (Acts 10:33). We need to be as concerned about bringing others to

Christ as Andrew was his brother Peter (Jn. 1:40-42). Make sure to bring your *"relatives and close friends"* as Cornelius did when he had the opportunity to hear the gospel preached (Acts 10:24, 33). We need to open our mouths and tell people about this opportunity to hear God's word being preached (Acts 8:35). What better time to tell them about their soul's salvation, and bring them to Christ?

If you are interested in learning God's word, you need to be here every night!! Brother Smith plans on preaching sermons concerning: **No Condemnation, The Last Words Of A Dying Savior, and Rightly Dividing The Word Of Truth** (Sunday); **The Curse And The Cure** (Monday), **The Musts Of Salvation** (Tuesday), **The Work Of The Holy Spirit** (Wednesday), **Man Up!** (Thursday), and **Why Can't We Forgive?** (Friday). Brother Smith's sermons will make a spiritual appeal to both the Christian and non-Christian.

There will be no nightly collections. We do not solicit anyone's money. We only solicit your time. If there is anything said that you do not agree with, please feel free to ask Lanny about it. He is *"prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you ... with gentleness and respect"* (I Pet. 3:15). He does not claim to be infallible, but he knows where to go to find the answers to your Bible questions (I Pet. 4:11; Col. 4:6).

Please pray for our efforts in preaching the gospel this week that many will be brought to the Lord as a result of *"scattering the seed"* of God's word (Matt. 13:3; Lk. 8:11).

If anyone would like to have a private study on any Bible-related subject, please feel free to contact Lanny, or me (Isa. 1:18-20).

**All Visitors Are Welcome,  
All Members Are Expected!!**

## A Gospel Meeting

Richie Thetford

**[Editor's Note:** I recently ran across this article written by brother Thetford. I thought you might like to read from his pen as we begin our gospel meeting today. Please give careful consideration to this article.]

... I think it would do us all good to remind ourselves of the goals and aims of having a gospel meeting and the things that each one of us can do to help make this gospel meeting a success.

### Save The Lost

The only means in which God has of reaching the hearts of men is through the preaching of the gospel. The gospel is preached in gospel meetings for the purpose of creating, building, and strengthening the faith. None can be saved without believing in Jesus Christ (Jn. 8:24; Mk. 16:15-16). The gospel is preached in an effort to save the lost. Even though fewer and fewer non-Christian visitors are attending gospel meetings than in times past, still there are some non Christians that attend the

gospel meeting. There are teenagers, mates of Christians, and friends of Christians that attend the gospel meeting and therefore every effort must be made to reach these individuals so they can learn the truth of God's Word before it is everlastingly too late.

### Keep What We've Got

Gospel meetings are good to have in order to strengthen all Christians. We want to hold on to all the individuals that have already become Christians. There's no better way to do this than to continue to teach our number the Word of God. When Paul departed from the elders of the church at Ephesus, he said: *"And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified"* (Acts 20:32). Families have had their marriage strengthened and received words of encouragement and hope through gospel meetings. Every Christian can always use more strengthening in their daily life!

### Making The Gospel Meeting A Success

Every Gospel Meeting can be a success if we want it to be. The first thing we can do and should have been doing for the past month or so is to pray about the meeting. Pray that each of us will not be slack in inviting our friends and neighbors. Pray that many souls will be able to attend so the gospel can be heard and that their hearts will be pricked so as to respond favorably to the Word of God.

Singing is a vital part of the meeting. Often times the singing can make or break a gospel meeting. Nearly every gospel preacher I have known has said that good congregational singing adds much

to the success of a gospel meeting. Good spiritual singing makes a preacher want to preach because it shows him that the congregation is interested in spiritual matters. The Hebrew writer wrote: *"Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name"* (Heb. 13:15). Therefore, come prepared to sing and sing with the spirit and understanding (I Cor. 14:15). Good singing helps make everyone in the audience more receptive to the preaching.

Every member should strive to meet and greet all those attending the meeting, especially visitors. A special effort should be made to get the names and addresses of all visitors from our community. This information will be invaluable for follow up after the meeting. Remember that a first impression is a lasting impression. This is a very friendly congregation and most visitors will recognize that immediately. You can make a special effort to ask the visitors to sit with you during the service.

Every single member should make a personal effort to attend every assembly of the meeting. The elders thought it was important for us to have a meeting and therefore each and every one of us should

put forth every effort to be here. Remember, we can't edify and encourage one another if we are not here. Anything worth doing is worth doing our best. **If we will give this meeting our very best effort in prayer, inviting our friends and neighbors, singing, and attendance then it will be a success!** Paul wrote in Romans 10:13-15: *"For 'everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.' How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!'"*

(From: [www.thetfordcountry.com](http://www.thetfordcountry.com))

**David Said:** The blessed man will not associate with evil people, *"But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night"* (Ps. 1:1-2).

### Something to Think About...

Is the Bible your delight, or something that is keeping you from doing what you like???

Our Facebook Page:  
[www.facebook.com/CaneyvillechurchOfChrist](http://www.facebook.com/CaneyvillechurchOfChrist)



***I want the truth, give me book, chapter, and verse!***

**Come and meet with the church of Christ in Caneyville.**

**Location: 101 N. Main Street Caneyville, KY**

#### Meeting Times:

Sunday Bible Study	_____	10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship	_____	10:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship	_____	5:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study	_____	7:00 p.m.

**"The Ancient Landmark" Television Show: airs on You Tube**  
([www.youtube.com/TheOldPaths1994](http://www.youtube.com/TheOldPaths1994))

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